The Government of the countries affected by these incidents of harassment against the Sikhs were prompt in responding to the situation and there are no reports of any new such incidents.

Refusal by Pakistan to accept relief for Afghani Refugees

1281. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's plan to send humanitarian assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistan received a jolt when Pakistan informed India that it did not have adequate storage capacity for relief material;

(b) if so, whether now India has decided to sent one million tonnes of wheat, medicines, quilts and blankets etc. through areas held by the Northern Alliance and to refugees in Iran; and

(c) If so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) As part of our commitment to ameliorate the condition of Afghan people, the Government has committed to offer humanitarian assistance for internally and externally displaced Afghans and others, in need, including through provision of one million tonnes of wheat. As part of our commitment, we had proposed to send to the Afghan refugees in Pakistan, through the Government of Pakistan, a consignment of wheat. Government of Pakistan indicated that it had sufficient stocks of wheat, and faced problems related to storage facilities.

Government is in touch with several countries as well as with various UN agencies, including the World Food Programme and is engaged in working out the modalities for sending humanitarian assistance of wheat and other items to the Afghan people as early as possible. Recently, two consignments of medical relief material of the quantum of over forty tonnes were dispatched for Afghan people.

Extradition of Indian Terrorists from Pakistan

1282. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have demanded from the Pakistan Government to hand over certain terrorists to India to stand trial;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) Pakistan Government's response in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) Government have repeatedly called upon Pakistan, including at the highest levels, to end its sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India, and to take steps to arrest and extradite known criminals and terrorists responsible for heinous crimes in India who have sought refuge in Pakistan.

During the July 2001, Agra Summit, Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee also raised this issue with the President of Pakistan. Prime Minister noted that terrorists and criminals responsible for heinous crimes in India including the Mumbai bomb blasts in 1993 and the hijacking of IC-814 were living in Pakistan. He asked that they should be arrested and handed over to India so that they could be brought to justice.

(c) Pakistan denies that it is involved in cross border terrorism against India. Pakistan also denies the presence of known Indian criminals and terrorists in Pakistan.

Government continues to be vigilant, and will take all necessary measures to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.

Lifting Restrictions on Transfer of Dual use Technology

1283. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India expects the United States to lift not only the post-1998 sanctions, but earlier restrictions on transfer of dual use technology as well;

(b) if so, whether these sanctions clamped after the May 1998 nuclear tests would be lifted soon;

(c) whether the US Government has already conveyed its decision to India; and

(d) if so, to what extent curbs on dual-use technology has also been lifted?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) to (c) On 22nd September 2001, the United States lifted all sanctions

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.